



## Source: Environment Agency, Feb 2010

### Could you afford to be flooded?

Flood damage and losses typically cost business premises between £75,000 and £112,000, our recent assessment of the cost of the 2007 floods in England has found.

And even businesses whose premises weren't flooded felt the knock-on effects of disruption to critical infrastructure, including utilities and the road and rail networks.

Commenting on the report, our Director of Flood and Coastal Risk Management, Robert Runcie, said: 'The high costs of flooding underline the importance of continued investment in reducing flood risk, particularly as climate change means that we are likely to see more severe and frequent flooding in future.'

There is a great deal that business owners can do to help themselves and ensure their staff and premises are better protected from the potential damage and disruption caused by flooding. The key is to plan ahead so you are well prepared and know what to do when flooding is expected.

If you are one of the five million people in England and Wales who live or work in a floodplain, your home or business is more likely to be flooded than it is to catch fire. Preparing for possible flooding should be as routine as taking fire safety precautions.

